

SEMI - ANNUAL REPORT¹

CRIME IN NORTH CAROLINA - 1996

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

October 1996

The number of Crime Index offenses reported by North Carolina law enforcement agencies during the first six months of 1996 decreased 1 percent compared to the same period last year. Crime in both suburban areas and rural areas of North Carolina also decreased 1 percent.

The number of violent Index offenses (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) went down 6 percent statewide. Individually, murder dropped 10 percent, rape went up 4 percent, robbery decreased 7 percent and aggravated assault went down 6 percent.

Property crimes (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) as a group remained unchanged during the first 6 months of 1996. While burglary dropped 4 percent, larceny was up 1 percent and motor vehicle theft rose 12 percent. Arson, a property crime not included with the other Index offenses, increased 10 percent.

The number of juveniles under the age of 18 arrested for Crime Index offenses increased 2 percent during the first 6 months of 1996 compared to a 2 percent decrease in adults 18 and over arrested. Youths arrested under 18 for violent crime remained unchanged; while adult arrests decreased 2 percent.

The number of North Carolina law enforcement officers assaulted decreased 5 percent. During the first 6 months of 1996, one law enforcement officer was feloniously killed, compared to the same number killed in 1995.

TABLE 1 - CRIME INDEX BY POPULATION GROUP

Percent change January - June 1996 over 1995, offenses known to the police.

Population Groups and Areas ²	No. of Depts.	Total Index ³	Vio- lent	Prop- erty	Mur- der	Rape	Rob- bery	Agg. Assault	Bur- glary	Lar- ceny	MVT	Arson ³
Core Cities	13	0	-8	+1	-4	-1	-7	-9	-4	0	+19	+13
Suburban Cities	111	-3	-9	-2	0	+4	-9	-10	-11	0	+9	+22
Suburban Counties	32	+2	0	+2	-10	+26	-13	+1	-2	+3	+9	+4
Suburban Areas	156	-1	-7	0	-5	+6	-8	-7	-4	+1	+16	+11
Rural Centers	15	-7	-6	-7	-62	-32	-5	-3	-13	-4	-13	-22
Rural Cities	152	0	-7	+1	-56	-11	-9	-6	+1	+1	-5	+15
Rural Counties	63	+2	+1	+3	+4	+6	-5	+1	0	+5	+6	+12
Rural Areas	230	-1	-3	0	-22	-8	-6	-2	-3	+1	-1	+6
Other Agencies⁴	76	+4	+6	+4	0	+367	0	-5	+24	+2	+11	+67
State Total	462	-1	-6	0	-10	+4	-7	-6	-4	+1	+12	+10

TABLE 2 - CRIME INDEX TRENDS

Percent change 1992 - 1996, each year over previous year, January - June.

Years	Total Index ³	Vio- lent	Prop- erty	Mur- der	Rape	Rob- bery	Agg. Assault	Bur- glary	Lar- ceny	MVT	Arson ³
1993/1992	-3	+1	-3	+10	+1	+6	-1	-8	-1	-3	-22
1994/1993	+1	-1	+1	+1	-1	-6	+1	-3	+2	+11	+25
1995/1994	+3	+1	+4	-17	-5	+1	+2	-1	+6	+4	-10
1996/1995	-1	-6	0	-10	+4	-7	-6	-4	+1	+12	+10

¹Statistics presented in this report are an initial indication of crime known to law enforcement in North Carolina for the first six months of 1996 and are based on the volume of crime reported by comparable months. Finalized figures will be available in the initial report entitled *Crime in North Carolina - 1996*.

²See back page for explanation of Population Groups and Areas.

³The number of reported arsons has not been included in the total Crime Index. See back page for offense definitions.

⁴Includes state law enforcement, campus police, state parks, airport police and ABC agencies.

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TABLE 3 - ADDITIONAL CRIME INDEX TRENDS

Percent change January - June 1996 over 1995, offenses known to police.

% Change		% Change	
Murder	-10	Aggravated Assault	-6
Rape	+4	Larceny/Theft	+1
Robbery	-7	Pocket-Picking	-19
Highways	-9	Purse-Snatching	+63
Commercial House	-11	Shoplifting	-1
Gas/Service Station	-7	From Motor Vehicles	+5
Convenience Store	-24	MV Parts & Accessories	-9
Residence	-7	Bicycles	-10
Bank	+34	From Buildings	0
Miscellaneous	+6	Coin Machines	-21
		All Other	+4
Burglary	-4	MV Theft	+12
Residence Total	-4	Automobiles	+11
Night	-8	Trucks/Buses	+8
Day	-7	Other Vehicles	+21
Unknown Time	+1		
Non-Residence Total	-4	Arson	+10
Night	-7	Structural Property	+17
Day	-3	Mobile Property	-11
Unknown Time	-3	All Other (Crops, Timber)	-6

TABLE 4 - INDEX OFFENSE ARREST TRENDS - ALL AGES

Percent change January - June 1996 over 1995, arrests made by police.

Area	Total Index ¹	Vio-lent	Prop-erty	Mur-der	Rape	Rob-bery	Agg. Assault	Bur-glary	Lar-ceny	MVT	Arson ¹
Suburban	-2	-1	-2	+1	+13	-5	-1	-2	-2	-9	-1
Rural	-1	-4	0	-21	0	-7	-2	-9	+4	+3	-10
State Total	-2	-2	-1	-8	+9	-6	-1	-4	0	-7	-4

TABLE 5 - INDEX OFFENSE ARREST TRENDS - UNDER 18

Percent change January - June 1996 over 1995, arrests under 18 made by police.

Area	Total Index ¹	Vio-lent	Prop-erty	Mur-der	Rape	Rob-bery	Agg. Assault	Bur-glary	Lar-ceny	MVT	Arson ¹
Suburban	+4	+7	+3	+7	+63	+5	+5	+3	+3	-2	-9
Rural	-3	-17	0	-50	-23	+17	-26	-8	+4	+15	0
State Total	+2	0	+2	-16	+32	+8	-4	-1	+4	+1	-7

TABLE 6 - LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSAULTED

Percent change January - June 1996 over 1995, officers assaulted in the line of duty.

Suburban Areas	Rural Areas	State Total
-5	+6	-5

TABLE 7 - LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED

Number feloniously killed while in the line of duty, January - June 1995 and 1996.

Year	Suburban Areas	Rural Areas	State Total
1995	1	0	1
1996	0	1	1

TABLE 8 - CRIME INDEX FOR SELECTED CITIES AND COUNTIES

Number of offenses reported to city police and county sheriff/county police, January - June 1995 and 1996.

City Total % Change	YR	Total Index	Vio- lent	Prop- erty	Mur- der	Rape	Rob- bery	Agg. Aslt.	Bur- glary	Lar- ceny	MVT	Arson
Asheville -8	95	2,483	274	2,209	9	17	77	171	494	1,544	171	5
	96	2,291	254	2,037	4	12	82	156	425	1,441	171	2
Cary +16	95	985	40	945	1	1	12	26	167	762	16	11
	96	1,145	37	1,108	0	2	15	20	178	880	50	9
Charlotte-Mecklenburg 0	95	24,971	4,467	20,504	50	160	1,337	2,920	4,735	14,054	1,715	149
	96	25,038	4,115	20,923	39	160	1,102	2,814	4,818	14,257	1,848	208
Durham +8	95	7,255	852	6,403	13	39	426	374	2,017	3,897	489	24
	96	7,863	798	7,065	19	41	392	346	2,025	4,331	709	36
Fayetteville -9	95	5,387	920	4,467	10	30	229	651	1,054	3,055	358	34
	96	4,905	486	4,419	6	34	209	237	965	3,129	325	19
Gastonia -2	95	2,787	340	2,447	4	12	104	220	457	1,884	106	12
	96	2,730	370	2,360	6	11	126	227	624	1,639	97	30
Goldsboro +11	95	1,908	286	1,622	4	7	63	212	378	1,152	92	7
	96	2,120	288	1,832	2	16	95	175	347	1,385	100	4
Greensboro -5	95	8,542	1,011	7,531	15	36	377	583	1,637	5,356	538	60
	96	8,117	948	7,169	10	54	322	562	1,681	4,978	510	32
Greenville +4	95	2,504	250	2,254	4	12	120	114	689	1,458	107	5
	96	2,592	228	2,364	1	13	76	138	546	1,720	98	11
High Point +9	95	3,181	414	2,767	5	13	109	287	836	1,739	192	16
	96	3,476	422	3,054	5	22	137	258	880	1,940	234	26
Jacksonville 0	95	1,347	153	1,194	0	16	40	97	239	920	35	4
	96	1,342	153	1,189	3	10	39	101	217	920	52	4
Raleigh +5	95	7,911	943	6,968	9	54	267	613	1,638	4,815	515	61
	96	8,330	1,017	7,313	17	46	345	609	1,535	5,068	710	41
Rocky Mount -6	95	2,573	314	2,259	7	18	96	193	627	1,533	99	8
	96	2,427	291	2,136	4	9	118	160	559	1,477	100	20
Wilmington +4	95	3,366	261	3,105	2	17	98	144	713	2,191	201	15
	96	3,503	364	3,139	1	18	109	236	716	2,166	257	20
Winston-Salem -7	95	9,542	1,240	8,302	13	71	481	675	2,440	5,296	566	79
	96	8,850	1,119	7,731	18	61	417	623	1,827	5,016	888	91
County Total % Change	YR	Total Index	Vio- lent	Prop- erty	Mur- der	Rape	Rob- bery	Agg. Aslt.	Bur- glary	Lar- ceny	MVT	Arson
Buncombe +14	95	1,033	133	900	1	1	12	119	330	499	71	9
	96	1,174	161	1,013	3	14	12	132	376	559	78	10
Cumberland -3	95	5,069	388	4,681	5	50	117	216	1,506	2,815	360	59
	96	4,940	357	4,583	12	52	117	176	1,468	2,708	407	84
Davidson -24	95	1,226	70	1,156	0	5	12	53	475	635	46	13
	96	934	68	866	0	11	8	49	360	465	41	13
Forsyth +4	95	1,807	148	1,659	0	10	20	118	505	1,096	58	48
	96	1,872	207	1,665	0	11	17	179	411	1,172	82	47
Gaston +2	95	1,207	159	1,048	1	8	14	136	396	601	51	12
	96	1,231	177	1,054	5	11	20	141	410	595	49	22
Guilford +7	95	1,725	183	1,542	3	6	23	151	451	998	93	15
	96	1,854	182	1,672	1	17	17	147	505	1,107	60	14
Randolph +5	95	982	56	926	0	5	7	44	316	575	35	6
	96	1,027	76	951	2	5	9	60	289	611	51	1
Robeson +5	95	765	103	662	7	3	7	86	370	256	36	5
	96	806	107	699	5	4	8	90	384	276	39	6
Rowan -10	95	827	92	735	0	9	4	79	280	423	32	13
	96	745	88	657	0	10	11	67	227	393	37	7
Wake +8	95	1,419	140	1,279	1	18	28	93	463	723	93	23
	96	1,526	146	1,380	5	16	26	99	466	786	128	21

North Carolina Population Groups and Areas

Core Cities: City law enforcement agencies with populations of 50,000 or more within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Suburban Cities: City law enforcement agencies within a MSA exclusive of the core cities.

Suburban Counties: Sheriff's departments within a MSA.

Suburban Areas: All law enforcement agencies within a MSA.

Rural Centers: City law enforcement agencies with populations of 10,000 or more outside a MSA.

Rural Cities: City law enforcement agencies outside a MSA exclusive of the rural centers.

Rural Counties: Sheriff's departments outside a MSA.

Rural Areas: All law enforcement agencies outside a MSA.

Index Offense Definitions

Index Crime includes the total number of murders, rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries, larcenies and motor vehicle thefts. While arson is considered an Index crime, the number of arsons is not included in the Crime Index tables.

Violent Crime includes the offenses of murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

Murder - The willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.

Forcible Rape - The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force are also included.

Robbery - The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Aggravated Assault - An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or other means likely to produce death or serious bodily harm. Includes attempted assaults.

Property Crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

Burglary - The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. Includes attempted forcible entry.

Larceny - The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

Motor Vehicle Theft - The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Arson - Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without the intent to defraud.